



# IH OHANA HAPPENINGS



IT'S ABOUT LIVING!



WHERE  
WE'RE  
GOING:  
SAVE THE  
DATE!

IH HERO:  
STAFF  
SPOTLIGHT

WHERE WE'VE  
BEEN:  
RECENT  
EVENTS

## WHERE WE'RE GOING: SAVE THE DATE!

**NOVEMBER** is a special month here at Islands Hospice as it is both ---

**\*\*National Hospice & Palliative Care Month AND National Family Care Givers Month.\*\***

**Be sure to follow us on FB and Instagram for a chance to share your hospice and caregiver stories. We would love to hear them...**

**November 12 -- Veterans Day**

**November 22 -- Thanksgiving Day**

**Dec 8: IH (Maui) Holiday Celebration // Dec 15: IH (Oahu) Holiday Celebration**

**And drumroll, please!** The **WINNER** of our IH Instagram Challenge, receiving an IH swag bag AND a \$100 gas card is: **@joejay15j --- Joanne Nocasa !!** Thanks for following @islandshospice and being a part of this great community.



## IH HERO: STAFF SPOTLIGHT

MARLA TOTH, LPN (TEAM B)

Marla moved to Hawaii nearly 8 years ago. Because she is originally from Indiana she often gets asked if she is military, but in fact, she is not. The dream to move to Hawaii started 30 years ago when her Aunt, who was the head athletic trainer at the University of HI, flew Marla and her twin brother out as a graduation gift. This trip left "an unbelievable impression" on her. She knew right then and there she hoped to one day call Hawaii home.

After that, Marla made a few trips to Hawaii over the years, but it wasn't until her twin brother moved here in 2011 that she decided to make the move as well. Her brother sealed the deal when he called her shortly after having a baby and said, "Your nephew has no family here, why don't you move to Hawaii?" Marla could not deny this true ohana offer and packed up and moved to Oahu one month later. Besides, she says, "I am from Chicagoland, so you can imagine how cold winters there can be. And if you can't, just be grateful that you live in such a beautiful tropical climate!"

The thing she loves most about living in Hawaii is the lifestyle and how everyone is Ohana even if you're just meeting them for the first time. She never tires of the mesmerizing beauty the island holds.

Marla is currently engaged to her fiancée, Mike and she has a three-year-old daughter named, Kali. Of course, we can't forget her two dogs Scout and Maverick who live with her in Wahiawa.

## IH HERO: STAFF SPOTLIGHT, CONT.

MARLA "PROVIDES EXCEPTIONAL CUSTOMER SERVICE AND SHOWS EXEMPLARY POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD CHANGES AND DAILY CHALLENGES.

SHE IS ALWAYS SMILING AND COMMUNICATING, ALWAYS UPLIFTING, AND HER POSITIVE ENERGY IS INFECTIOUS AND MAKES PATIENTS, AS WELL AS FAMILIES AND CAREGIVERS, SMILE.

-- MAREEN ENGEL, RN (DCS FOR TEAM B)

Marla has worked with Islands Hospice for almost five years as an LPN on Team B. As an LPN, she is responsible for providing direct patient care.

The thing she loves most about working at Islands Hospice is "helping our patients live life to the fullest during their remaining days." She tries to fill all her patient visits with "positivity and warmth because hospice nursing is as much about caring for families as it is about caring for the patients."

To Marla, being a hospice nurse is "more than just a job. Sometimes the patients just need a touch on the hand and a warm smile. Showing the patient we are there for them in their time of need is what matters most to me."

Her free time is mostly spent with family. Saturday mornings are devoted to watching her daughter enjoy gymnastics class. Marla also loves going to Wet and Wild waterpark in the afternoon with her brother's family. And if she can squeeze out a little more free time, you can find her exploring the island, finding new places to eat, gardening, cooking, and baking. Marla is a great example to the patients she cares for of living life to the fullest!

## WHERE WE'VE BEEN: CELEBRATING RECENT EVENTS



From left to right: Don Kunieda, Marcee Kunieda Kaii Kaaihue, RN, Kawai Domingo, RN, Violeta Baldado, CNA

Thank you to Marcee Kunieda, the daughter of master Oahu craftsman Stewart Medeiros, and her husband Don for donating this handcrafted Umeke to the Oahu Hospice Home. This gift was a thank you to Islands Hospice for taking care of Don's mom and dad over the last few years.



We hosted another touching Day of Remembrance as we gathered to honor those we have cared for over the last year.



Like us on FB & Instagram to keep up with all things Islands Hospice & wish your IH Ohana Happy (work) Anniversaries!

